

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 AGR-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04

TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 SP-02 L-02 SS-15

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R 051208Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5173

INFO DEA HQ WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 0583

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, UN, NL

SUBJECT: RESUMPTION OF TURKISH OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION

REF: HAGUE 428 (NOTAL)

1. IN COURSE OF RECENT VISIT BY EMBOFF AND DEA SAIC WITH HEAD OF MIN JUSTICE OF CONSTITUTIONAL/CRIMINAL LAW DEPT, L. ORANJE (REFTEL, LATTER REFERRED TO APPARENT DISPLACEMENT OF EASTERN-ORIGIN HEROIN BY MEXICAN-ORIGIN GOODS IN US ILLICIT MARKET. HE WONDERED WHY IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR MEXICO TO ERADICATE COMPLETELY ITS OPIUM POPPY FIELDS.

2. DEA SAIC EXPLAINED REASONS FOR INCREASE IN POPULARITY OF MEXICAN-ORIGIN HEROIN (I.E. AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR HEROIN FORMERLY SUPPLIED THRU "FRENCH CONNECTION") AND DESCRIBED SOME OF DIFFICULT TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHICH STILL HAVE TO BE OVERCOME IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO EXERCISE MORE EFFECTIVE CONTROL FROM THAT SOURCE.

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3. EMBOFF ASSURED ORANJE THAT DECLINE IN TURKISH OPIUM

SUPPLY WHICH HAD RECENTLY BEEN APPARENT GAVE US LITTLE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE TURKISH HEROIN PROBLEM HAS BEEN SOLVED. INDEED, THE GOT DECISION TO ALLOW RESUMPTION OF POPPY CULTIVATION, DESPITE ITS EXPRESSED POLICY OF PROHIBITING POPPY LANCING, WAS OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN FROM THE ENFORCEMENT POINT OF VIEW INASMUCH AS THE TURKS HAD DEMONSTRATED A LACK OF EFFECTIVE CONTROL IN THE PAST. THE USG IS TRYING TO IMPRESS THESE CONCERNS UPON THE GOT AND HOPES THAT GOVERNMENTS WHO ARE LIKEWISE CONCERNED WILL MAKE APPROPRIATE BILATERAL REPRESENTATIONS TO THE TURKS. DEA SAIC THEN DESCRIBED TO ORANJE IN PRACTICAL TERMS WHAT SOME OF ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS IN TURKEY HAVE BEEN.

4. APPARENTLY CONVINCED THAT PROBLEM IS WORTHY OF ATTENTION, ORANJE SAID HE WOULD TAKE QUESTION UP WITH JUSTICE MINISTER VAN AGT TO EXPLORE MODALITIES FOR POSSIBLE GON DEMARCHE TO GOT.

5. ORANJE ALSO WONDERED WHETHER FORTHCOMING CND SESSION WOULD NOT PROVIDE GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO BRING THE POINT HOME TO THE TURKS. HE EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT A CLOSED MEETING OF THE CND DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE PROBLEM MIGHT BE SUITABLE DEVICE FOR THE PURPOSE. NOT BEING SIGNIFICANTLY FAMILIAR WITH CND AGENDA OR PROCEDURES, EMBOFFS DID NOT COMMENT ON THIS SUGGESTION.

6. MESSAGE ON DUTCH DEL TO CND FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
GOULD

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